

Name Elizabeth  
Bessie Pitt

Graduation year 1925

Today's date: Oct 31 1991

I. Why did you choose to study at MES?

Muscle Recovery from Car Accident.

II. What alternatives did you consider?

Nursing

III. What are some of your fondest memories of being a student at MES?

Graduating Fencing Archery.

IV. What are some of your worst memories of being a student at MES?

Teaching first class

Shakespeare.

V. With respect to your course work what are some of your fondest memories?

Christmas Programs.

Mrs Naismith Studio Club (Principal)

Graduation

Practice Teaching Ketchikan School

Bryn Mawr College Staff D.S.A.



VI. With respect to your course work what are some of your worst memories? *Dramatics*

VII. What do you remember about the school's principal and board?

*Roll call answer by giving quotations of literature*

*Principal Charles Sparrow found to be in silent movies and stage in Hollywood 1936. Back stage visit.*

VIII. How do you think most student's paid for their education at MES [summer jobs, parents paid, *X*.]?

IX. In what ways have you kept in touch with alumnae of MES?

*Thru class of 1922.*

*50th year ReUnion of 1975, in Niagara Falls. ENT 1975*

*Xmas letters - cards*

X. What kind of work/volunteer activities did you do as a result of your education at MES? *St John Ambulance Nursing Div. Supt World War Overseas Service. Can. Mental Health Assoc Museum Boards "R. Tait McKenzie Mill of Kintail Almonte. Ont Historical Articles + Booklets. Wilderness canoe Trips. Niagara Falls Historical Society.*

*Camp Director. Shadow Lake Camp Eatons Toronto. 29 yrs*

XI. Did you pursue further education following MES? Where?

*Why? Niels Bukh Gymnastic College, Ellorup Denmark for PHE Grads. Staff Exec Div. OSHAWA-Welland, Niagara Falls YWCA + YMCAs. Dir. T. EATON CO. Girls Temple University Camp Staff.*

*Recreation. 8000 Employees. Ontario. Shadow Lake Camp. 4000 Regist. Prof. 49 years in succession. Retired 3 times, married age 66 yrs.*

*Courses and Jobs too numerous to mention  
49 yrs continuously. No Time off between jobs.*



XII. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

- A. Your year of birth: 1964
- B. Your country of birth: CANADA.
- C. Country of mother's birth: CAN.
- D. Country of father's birth: CAN
- E. When you entered MES what occupations did your parents have? COLLINS INLET LUMBER CO
- Mother's occupation: Housewife
- Father's occupation: Mgr. Co.
- F. Where were you living before coming to MES?
- City: Collingwood Ont (town)
- Province: Ont. Country: Simcoe
- G. Which school did you attend prior to entering MES?
- Collingwood Coll. Inst.
- What grade (level) did you complete at this school? matric
- Was this a private or public school? \_\_\_\_\_
- H. If you married, which year did you first do so: 1971
- Married to: (name) Elizabeth (Bess) PITT to BARRON. <sup>Robert A.</sup>
- Occupation of husband when married: Carburundom. Mgt.  
Niag. Falls V.S.A.  
Mgt.

- XIII. Would you be interested in receiving a copy of my abstract when I complete my study? YES

Could you list other addresses than from the class of 39, and 41, or do you know of MES students who have passed on?

*enclosed.*

*Have books I'm discarding if you'd like to phone & arrange to see them*

*Best wishes for your success.*

*Elizabeth (Pitt) Barron  
Bess.*

ELIZABETH BARRON  
ST. CHARLES VILLAGE  
30 NOVA CRES., APT. 303  
WELLAND, ONT. L3C 6P8

Phone  
1-416-788-2478.



Name Lillian Thomson Graduation year 1927

Today's date: July 10 1991

I. Why did you choose to study at MES?

I had gone to Normal School first and taken some classes in the summer in Hart House in connectino with teaching and like it very much. And one of the teachers there happen to be a graduate of MES, and she suggested I go there. [Winnifred] Prendergast. She might have taught at MES...

II. What alternatives did you consider?

No! It was PE, and there was nothing at the University of Toronto and then I would have had to go to McGill and didn't want to go that far. I do not think we could have taught in Ontario Public Schools unless we had gone to Normal. You had to teach in the Y or private schools.

III. What are some of your fondest memories of being a student at MES?

I liked camp very much...

IV. What are some of your worst memories of being a student at MES?

I don't think I had any as a matter of fact. I enjoyed my two years there very much. I wasn't in residence. I lived in Port Credit and went down every day by train.

V. With respect to your course work what are some of your fondest memories?

I do not remember anything about the instructors. I like the doing of the things rather than the other courses that we had to take, the speaking, we took a few courses like that. Then of course the first year we took some drama as well, but then the next year it was closed. We just took PE and dancing. I don't remember going out to teach from MES,.... not when I was there

VI. With respect to your course work what are some of your worst memories?

I wasn't interested in the drama at all. We had to take it. Can't think of anything else than taking a course in general.

VII. What do you remember about the school's principal and board?

I forget the name. [Bertram Forsyth]. Mary Hamilton was president of our part - the physical education part. She owned Camp Tanamakoon and we took our training up their in September, Camp Training. We all like her very much, I remember that, she



was a very very nice person and I thought clever. She taught us.  
[Scott Raff] I remember the name but do not remember her personally. We took literature and some of those subjects and took them.

VIII. Did you pursue further education following MES? Where?  
Why?

IX. Did you pursue further employment following MES? Where?  
I attended some classes and then got married. Well I didn't even think of working outside the home.

MISC:

I do not remember doing anything at the Y, but I do remember doing a demonstration at Hart House once.... Could be in 1926.

I think the reason for that [claims of some of elitism] was that it used to be called the Margaret Eaton School of Literature and Expression, and people went there I believe as a finishing school, but it seems somebody decided that they needed some exercising classes and when they got Miss Hamilton to come in and teach them what we called physical culture in those days, and her classes became so popular that it just took over. The others fell by the wayside.

I would not know how students paid. Most of the time we taught at Summer camp in preparation for our work... Camp Ontonko.{sp?} I would know anyone later on.

[Alumnae] Oh I did for awhile back east and there is someone here, Flora Musgrave, on Balsam.... she would be a good person to call because she taught at MES after she graduated. Most of them are not around anymore. We did not get together around here. We got together once I think.

Work? Some saturday morning classes and Y but just for a short time. Volunteer - no got married and had a family.

[Oralce and MESOLAE] never heard of it. One of the graduates, Dorothy Jackson... 3 schools.... moved to Vancouver in 39 and have lost track since then. I can't remember a yearbook for our graduating class.... some pictures at graduation, regular end of the year photographs. No newspaper articles. Probably just a graduation pamphlet....



X. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

- A. Your year of birth: 19 06
- B. Your country of birth: Canada
- C. Country of mother's birth: Canada
- D. Country of father's birth: Canada
- E. When you entered MES what occupations did your parents have?
- Mother's occupation: home maker
- Father's occupation: Owner lumber and coal business  
in Port Credit
- F. Where were you living before coming to MES?
- City: Port Credit
- Province: Ontario Country: Canada
- G. Which school did you attend prior to entering MES?
- Port Credit Public High, Normal School
- What grade (level) did you complete at this school? 12
- Was this a private or public school? public
- H. If you married, which year did you first do so: 19 31
- Married to: Edmund Armstrong
- Occupation of husband when married: Bank -salesperson  
for chemical company

- XI. Would you be interested in receiving a copy of my abstract when I complete my study? oh sure that would be interesting - I would look forward to it.



✓

Name Flora Musgrave Graduation year 1928

Today's date: September 17 1991

I. Why did you choose to study/teach at MES?

Well I don't know. I was a graduate of UBC. I went down there I guess because I was interested in sport but to tell you the truth I would never do it again. When I was there weren't many openings for Physical Education teachers. I has broadened much more today than when I was there. Eventually you would have to make another choice. I got a general BA at UBC... I don't remember how I heard about it. Perhaps someone who had attended there.... If I would have done it all over again I would have gone into nursing.

II. What alternatives did you consider?

III. What are some of your fondest memories of being a student/faculty at MES?

Oh I think the faculty was pretty good. We had one teacher from Bedford England and one an American who studied in Sargent School in Boston... I understand MES was an off shoot from drama and the school had three parts and physical education was one part and the others fell by the wayside. And I think Lady Eaton had a large part to do with it.... It was a nice experience. And the students that went were very pleasant.

IV. What are some of your worst memories of being a student/faculty at MES?

Everything was fine.

V. With respect to your course work what are some of your fondest memories? Which courses did you teach?

I liked the anatomy very much.

VI. With respect to your course work what are some of your worst memories?

VII. What do you remember about Mary Hamilton and board? There was a Mr. Musgrave on board briefly in 1926, is he a relation to you?

I don't know about Emma Scott Nasmith.

Mary Hamilton was a wonderful person. She was very fair and very nice.



VIII. What do you remember about:

- A. Charlotte Layton: She was a wonderful person. She was terrific. I saw her once when I was out in Nova Scotia... I used to hear from her all the time at Christmas.
- B. Charlotte Kaulbach: She studied in Bedford. No much stands out.
- C. Laura Cuyle Geddes: She studied at Sargent. I think she was very much liked by the students.
- D. W. Greaves: Don't remember that name.
- E. Robertson: Don't remember that name either.
- F.

- IX. How do you think most student's paid for their education at MES [summer jobs, parents paid....]?

I think that for most of them their parents paid for them. Quite a few girls from private schools were there.

- X. In what ways have you kept in touch with alumnae of MES? Addresses?

No not very much. There were some here in Vancouver and they had a reunion one time but I did not hear about it. I really have not kept in touch with anybody. Most of my year I do not know where they are gone. Each year a top student got a medal. I received it one year. I have lost though, I think it was stolen. There is another one who belongs to the university women's club but she graduated, I'm not sure when. I think her husband is a judge. Off hand I cannot tell you what her name is. We met at the University women's club one day quite by accident.

- XI. What kind of work/volunteer activities did you do as a result of your education at MES?

I worked at MES for a couple of years. Then I went to King Edward High School [Vancouver] for a couple of years. I liked when I was at MES. As the new teacher on the staff I got all the subjects no one else wanted. I got the swimming - I liked teaching that very much. I taught some other things. I taught anatomy and a certain amount of country dancing. I cannot remember, it was a long time ago.

- XII. Did you pursue further education following MES? Where? Why? Your received a BA from where? In what?



XIII. Do you recall MESOLAE, Oracle, MESAMIES - yearbook? Do you have any published materials, course outlines....?

Nothing for my years.

There was a Musgrave on the board of 1926, was any relation to you?

No. We had no relations here at all.

Please pass on my best wishes to Norah MacClennan. I knew her, she must be quite a bit older than I am. She left PE and went into some kind of social work. She did not have any kind of degree or anything, I don't know how she got in there, she did and was quite good I understand. I got to know her because she was around the school.



XIV. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

- A. Your year of birth: 19\_06\_
- B. Your country of birth: Canada Winnipeg
- C. Country of mother's birth: Canada - Scottish bkgrd
- D. Country of father's birth: England
- E. When you entered MES what occupations did your parents have?
- Mother's occupation: Nurse
- Father's occupation: Manufacturers agent
- F. Where were you living before coming to MES?
- City: Vancouver
- Province: BC Country: Canada
- G. Which school did you attend prior to entering MES?
- University of British Columbia 1926
- What grade (level) did you complete at this school? 4
- Was this a private or public school? public

- XV. Would you be interested in receiving a copy of my abstract when I complete my study? yes





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